

Message

From: Morning Consult [reply@e.morningconsult.com]
Sent: 4/6/2017 12:07:52 PM
To: Duffy, Rick [Duffy.Rick@epa.gov]
Subject: Morning Consult Energy: Trump to Meet with Xi, but Not Expected to Discuss Climate



MORNING CONSULT
ENERGY

By Jack Fitzpatrick

Washington Brief

- President Donald Trump will meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping at Mar-a-Lago, as China takes more of a leadership role internationally on climate change, but observers don't expect that to be part of the discussion. ([The Independent](#))
- There is no precedent for the kind of large-scale downsizing at the Environmental Protection Agency proposed by the White House, and the process could be "a mess," said Stan Meiburg, a former acting deputy administrator. ([E&E News](#))
- Energy Secretary Rick Perry was added to the National Security Council's principals committee, while strategist Steve Bannon was removed. ([Austin American-Statesman](#))

Business Brief

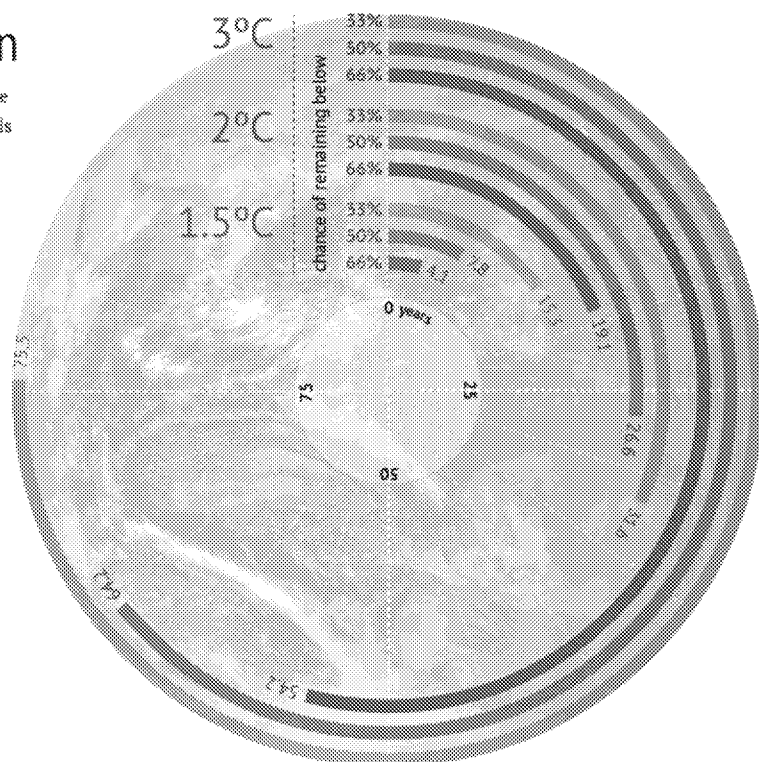
- NextEra Energy, the parent company of Florida Power & Light, drafted legislation to impose new requirements on homeowners and businesses that install rooftop solar. The legislation was included in a bill that passed a state House committee Wednesday. ([Miami Herald](#))
- Toshiba fired Westinghouse Chairman Danny Roderick two days before the nuclear subsidiary filed for bankruptcy protection last week. ([Reuters](#))
- Eurelectric, which represents 3,500 companies in Europe, said the continent's electric sector is looking to move away from coal power toward cleaner energy sources, saying decarbonization is "essential to guarantee the long-term sustainability of the global economy." ([CNBC](#))

Chart Review

Analysis: Just four years left of the 1.5C carbon budget **Carbon Brief**

Carbon Countdown

How many years of current emissions would use up the IPCC's carbon budgets for different levels of warming?



CarbonBrief
ANALYSIS • 2018

Photo: NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center
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Events Calendar (All Times Local)

Thursday

NCAC Washington Energy Policy Conference

9 a.m.

Friday

No events scheduled



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General

Donald Trump 'won't discuss climate change' at meeting with Xi Jinping despite US and China being worst polluters

Andrew Buncombe, The Independent

The US and China between them produce 44 per cent of the world's carbon dioxide, but environmental campaigners fear the issue of climate change - one of the world's existential threats - will not be on the agenda when the leaders of the two countries meet. Donald Trump is set to host Chinese President Xi Jinping for two days at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida.

Rick Perry added to National Security Council's core decision-makers
Philip Jankowski, Austin American-Statesman

Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry has been added to a core group within the National Security Council in a shakeup of members announced on Wednesday. Perry, the secretary of energy, was one of several officials added to the principals committee, the primary group of policy-makers for national security.

'It is a mess' - downsizing won't be easy
Kevin Bogardus, E&E News

How you do lay off thousands of U.S. EPA employees? Slowly - and painfully. President Trump's budget proposal for the next fiscal year would slash EPA funding by 31 percent, or \$2.6 billion, leading to 3,200 fewer jobs at the agency. Shrinking the EPA workforce by that much would require serious time and effort - identifying the makeup of every worker, consulting with outside agencies, negotiating with various unions.

Can the White House Office of Science Survive Trump?
Emily Atkin, New Republic

When President Barack Obama took the White House in 2008, his knowledge of science was admittedly limited, but his interest in it wasn't. Within days of his election, he began selecting the scientists and tech wonks for his science advisory board, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Stocks Drop, Euro Wobbles on Central Bank Outlooks
Samuel Potter, Bloomberg News

Central banks were the dominant theme for markets on Thursday, with European stocks tracking declines in Asia and the U.S. on the prospect of a shrinking Fed balance sheet and the euro briefly reversing after Mario Draghi reaffirmed ECB monetary policy. The Stoxx Europe 600 Index headed for its first retreat in three days as S&P 500 futures steadied.

Oil and Natural Gas

Petrobras says Exxon expressed 'strong interest' in pre-salt oil
Laís Martins and Marcelo Teixeira, Reuters

U.S. oil company Exxon Mobil Corp expressed to Brazil's state-controlled company Petrobras "strong interest" in the exploration of deep-water oil fields off the Brazilian coast, Petrobras Chief Executive Pedro Parente said on Tuesday. "Considering

movements towards a strategic partnership, we have nothing concrete with Exxon, but they have certainly expressed strong interest in the Brazilian pre-salt exploration," Parente told reporters.

Exxon, Qatar Petroleum to tap Cypriot waters
Daniel J. Graeber, UPI

An exploration campaign off the coast of Cyprus is planned by 2018 following a study of the reserve potential, a Qatari energy company said Wednesday. Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades hosted representatives from Qatar Petroleum and Exxon Mobil for the signing of an exploration and production contract offshore.

Eurogas chief: Gas can be renewable energy, too
Pavol Szalai, EurActiv

The mobility sector will be a mix of electric- and gas-fuelled vehicles, Eurogas President Klaus Schäfer told EURACTIV Slovakia. Klaus Schäfer is chairman of the Board of Management and CEO of Uniper. He previously served as a member of the Board of Management of E.ON SE

Utilities and Infrastructure

FPL drafted portions of bill that puts tough requirements on rooftop solar companies
Mary Ellen Klas, Miami Herald

The parent company of Florida's largest utility was so intent on influencing the implementation of a constitutional amendment expanding solar installation in Florida, it drafted legislation designed to create new requirements for homeowners and businesses that install rooftop solar and sent it to the legislator who was authoring the language. The proposal, HB 1351 by Rep. Ray Rodrigues, which was passed Wednesday by the House Ways and Means Committee, contains sections that include verbatim language supplied by NextEra Energy, the parent company of Florida Power & Light.

Europe's electricity sector looks to move on from new-build coal-fired power plants and embrace clean energy
Anmar Frangoul, CNBC

The European electricity sector has announced its intention to move away from coal and focus on clean energy. In an announcement on Wednesday, Eurelectric said that the European power sector was determined to "play a key role in providing

clean energy for all Europeans" and to also "make electricity a central energy carrier for the low carbon economy."

FirstEnergy sells part of former Hatfield power plant to gas developer
Daniel Moore, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

FirstEnergy Corp. has agreed to sell of a portion of its former Hatfield's Ferry Power Station in Greene County to a New Jersey-based power developer that wants to build a large natural gas-fired plant on the site. APV Renaissance Partners has started engineering studies and gathering permits for the construction of a 1,000-megawatt natural gas facility on 33 acres at the former coal-fired power plant, Akron-based FirstEnergy said Wednesday.

Renewables

OPPD will add even more wind power to serve Facebook data center
Cole Epley, Omaha World-Herald

Social media giant Facebook is helping to boost the share of electricity from wind within the Omaha Public Power District. OPPD, which already doubled its wind-generating capacity in January of this year, will add even more wind to meet Facebook's stated intention of powering its planned Sarpy County data center with 100 percent renewable energy.

Indiana House passes bill to cut solar panel incentives
The Associated Press

Much of the financial incentive for installing solar panels would be eliminated under a bill approved by the Indiana House. Solar energy accounts for less than 1 percent of Indiana's power, but utilities worry it could cut into profits if popularity continues to grow.

Wind power foes: Don't ruin Maine's beauty to feed 'green energy' demands
Darren Fishell, Bangor Daily News

Wind power opponents near Moosehead Lake are worried that Massachusetts interests are going to ruin their view, 164 years after Bay Stater Henry David Thoreau trundled his famous nature-praising pen through Maine's North Woods. Massachusetts on Friday issued a massive request for clean power proposals that could help the state meet its goal of reducing its electrical system's impact on global warming.

Coal

Trump declares end to 'war on coal,' but utilities aren't listening **Valerie Volcovici et al., Reuters**

When President Donald Trump signed an executive order last week to sweep away Obama-era climate change regulations, he said it would end America's "war on coal", usher in a new era of energy production and put miners back to work. But the biggest consumers of U.S. coal - power generating companies - remain unconvinced.

Senators Push Carbon-Capture Technology, Pinning Hopes on Trump **Jack Fitzpatrick, Morning Consult**

Sen. Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) introduced a bill promoting carbon-capture technology on Wednesday, reviving attempts to support a product that is not widely used but has the potential to cut emissions from coal plants and other facilities. This is the second time Bennet has introduced the bill, along with Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio), allowing businesses to use tax-exempt private activity bonds to fund the installation of technology that captures carbon dioxide and then injects it underground into oil fields in order to improve the oil recovery process.

Coal Is on the Way Out at Electric Utilities, No Matter What Trump Says **Coral Davenport, The New York Times**

In Page, Ariz., the operators of the Navajo Generating Station, the largest coal-fired power plant in the West, have announced plans to close it by 2019. The electric utility Dayton Power & Light will shut two coal plants in southern Ohio by next year. Across the country, at least six other coal-fired power plants have shut since November, and nearly 40 more are to close in the next four years.

U.S. coal companies ask Trump to stick with Paris climate deal **Valerie Volcovici, Reuters**

Some big American coal companies have advised President Donald Trump's administration to break his promise to pull the United States out of the Paris Climate Agreement - arguing that the accord could provide their best forum for protecting their global interests. Remaining in the global deal to combat climate change will give U.S. negotiators a chance to advocate for coal in the future of the global energy mix, coal companies like Cloud Peak Energy Inc and Peabody Energy Corp told White House officials over the past few weeks, according to executives and a U.S. official familiar with the discussions.

Nuclear

Toshiba fired Westinghouse chairman two days before bankruptcy filing **Makiko Yamazaki, Reuters**

Toshiba Corp sacked Westinghouse Electric Co's chairman two days before the U.S. nuclear engineering subsidiary filed for bankruptcy protection last week, as the Japanese firm tries to draw a line under the travails of a business that has cost it billions of dollars. A spokesman for Toshiba said Danny Roderick was replaced as Westinghouse's chairman by Mamoru Hatazawa, chief of Toshiba's nuclear division, on March 27, two days before the Chapter 11 filing. Hatazawa's role would be temporary, he added.

Aecon lays off Cambridge nuclear workers in wake of Westinghouse bankruptcy **Brent Davis, Waterloo Region Record**

Aecon has laid off workers based in Cambridge at its nuclear division after U.S.-based Westinghouse Electric Co. filed for bankruptcy protection last week. "We can confirm that there were layoffs, temporary in nature, at our fabrication facility in Cambridge," Aecon corporate affairs director Nicole Court said in a statement.

Nuclear plant measure would raise electric bills **Tom Henry, Toledo Blade**

Akron-based FirstEnergy Corp. announced Wednesday that two Ohio legislators have agreed to introduce a bailout bill the utility sees as essential to the survival of its Davis-Besse and Perry nuclear power plants. The bill, to be known in the Ohio Senate as Senate Bill 128, would impose an unspecified increase in monthly electric bills on customers who have a nuclear plant in their service territory.

Climate

Analysis: Just four years left of the 1.5C carbon budget **Carbon Brief**

Four years of current emissions would be enough to blow what's left of the carbon budget for a good chance of keeping global temperature rise to 1.5C. That's the conclusion of analysis by Carbon Brief, which brings the Intergovernmental Panel on

Climate Change's (IPCC) carbon budgets up to date to include global CO2 emissions in 2016.

Fasten your seat belts: Climate change could increase air turbulence.
Chelsea Harvey, The Washington Post

Flight turbulence could increase significantly under climate change, a study warns, potentially upping the risk of injury - or at least flight anxiety - for future airline passengers. Furthermore, fuel and maintenance costs for carriers could rise.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

The Value of Defense in Depth: Cybersecurity of the Electric Grid
John Di Stasio, Morning Consult

For more than a decade, electric utilities, the U.S. government and other organizations have been building a robust and multi-faceted defense against cyberattacks that would disrupt the operations of the U.S. electric grid. At the same time, the cyber threat has evolved, the number of attacks has increased and the nature of attacks has advanced.

Why can't utility execs stand up for the climate?
David Crane, GreenBiz.com

Questioner: "Has it been proven that carbon dioxide is the primary cause of climate change?" "No, certainly not. Is climate change happening? Certainly. It has been happening for millennia."

Research Reports

Two-Thirds Of U.S. Voters Take Climate Personally, Quinnipiac University National Poll Finds; Opposition To The Wall Hits New High
Quinnipiac University

A total of 66 percent of American voters are "very concerned" or "somewhat concerned" that climate change will affect them or a family member personally, according to a Quinnipiac University national poll released today. The U.S. should discourage the use of coal because of environmental concerns, 56 percent of voters

say, while 36 percent say the U.S. should encourage coal use, citing jobs and economic benefits, the independent Quinnipiac University Poll finds.

Glyphosate toxicity and carcinogenicity: a review of the scientific basis of the European Union assessment and its differences with IARC

Jose V. Tarazona et al., Archives of Toxicology

Glyphosate is the most widely used herbicide worldwide. It is a broad spectrum herbicide and its agricultural uses increased considerably after the development of glyphosate-resistant genetically modified (GM) varieties. Since glyphosate was introduced in 1974, all regulatory assessments have established that glyphosate has low hazard potential to mammals, however, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) concluded in March 2015 that it is probably carcinogenic.



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